

WHERE CAN YOU GO FOR HELP?

Personal Safety

Keep the 24-hour, 7-day-a-week
Poison Help Line number handy in
case of actual or suspected poisonings.

1-800-222-1222

TTY only: 1-800-572-0638

If you have small children, use Mr.
Yuk stickers (available through the
Poison Help Line or its Web site
<http://www.wapc.org/>).

Waste Reduction & Recycling

For times and locations of household
hazardous waste collection programs,
used oil recycling sites, and places that
take old vehicle batteries, call the
state's Recycling Information Line.

1-800-RECYCLE

You can also find these times and
locations via the Internet at
<http://1800recycle.wa.gov>.

Hazardous Substance Information

For information on health and
environmental effects of hazardous
substances, and Community Right-to-
Know information, phone the
Department of Ecology Hazardous
Substance Information Line.

1-800-633-7585

OTHER INFORMATION

The following materials are available
from the Department of Ecology's
Web site:

- The Used Oil Problem,
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/90br10.html>
- A Guide to Waste Reduction and Recycling
Around the House,
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0507018.html>
- It's Your Right to Know about Chemical
Hazards in Your Community,
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/95412.html>
- Hazardous Waste: Helping Small Business
Understand the Law,
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/8956.html>
- Automotive Waste & the Do-It-Yourself,
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0507017>

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*If you require this publication in an alternate
format, please contact the Solid Waste &
Financial Assistance Program at 360-407-
6900 or TTY (for the speech and hearing
impaired) at 711 or 800-833-6388.*



Solid Waste & Financial Assistance Program
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Household Hazardous Waste



"A little Goes a Long Way"

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HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS *IN* YOUR HOME?

What might they be? Here are a few examples:

- Home repair chemical products, such as glues, sealants, thinners, solvents, paints, etc.
- Cleaning agents, such as oven cleaners, spot removers, and other strong cleaning products.
- Pesticides, herbicides, moss killers, and wood preservatives.
- Auto and boat batteries, gasoline, oil, fluids, antifreeze, etc.
- Hobby materials, such as photo and pool chemicals, charcoal lighter fluid, inks, and glazes.

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

We are surrounded by a variety of chemical products. While we may appreciate their benefits, we must also be aware of the hazards they pose.

Thoughtful selection, proper usage, safe storage, and correct disposal of our household chemicals are crucial in safeguarding your health and the health of your family, as well as the environmental qualities we care about in Washington.

Unfortunately, leftover chemical products are often flushed down the drain, tossed into the backyard, burned, buried, or poured down a storm drain. A little here and a little there may not seem like much. But when you multiply your seemingly minor amount by the number of homes in your community, the volume of chemical wastes we throw away mounts up to tons each year.

If we are to protect Washington's environment from serious damage, we need to act responsibly with the hazardous substances we choose to use. And the most responsible choice would always be to find and use an effective but less hazardous substance.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

You can take preventive measures to reduce the amount of household hazardous wastes you produce. The following guidelines will help:

1. Consider using a nontoxic or less hazardous product for your job. When possible, use water-based, not solvent-based products.
2. Remember to buy only what you need, use it all, or give what is left to somebody who can. Only products in the original, non-leaking containers with readable labels should be given away. Do not share banned chemicals such as DDT or pentachlorophenol.

With those hazardous products you still have left over, try to follow these practices:

- ♻️ Recycle everything you can. Bring in your waste oil to a recycling station. Be sure to bring in your old battery for exchange when buying a new one, or be prepared to pay an extra core charge.
- ♻️ Filter used paint thinner by setting it aside in a closed jar until it settles. Strain off the clear liquid for reuse. When dry, dispose of the paint particles and dirt in the trash.
- ♻️ To dispose of small amounts of latex paint, let liquid evaporate and discard the dried up paint in the trash. If you dried it in the paint can, leave the lid off the paint can when you throw it in the trash.
- ♻️ Locate a household hazardous waste collection program where you can turn in any additional household hazardous material.

